

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SES-02 SMS-02
SAA-01 SSM-03 SY-05 MCT-02 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /119 W
-----123969 072104Z /64

P 070824Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5256
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 18661

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UR, XF,PLO
SUBJECT: FATAH DELEGATION LEAVES MOSCOW

REF: (A) MOSCOW 18423 (NOTAL), (B) KUWAIT 4372 (NOTAL),
(C) BEIRUT 4464 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PRAVDA REPORT ON JULY 26-AUG. 4 VISIT TO
SOVIET UNION OF FATAH DEL IS SHORT ON SUBSTANCE,
PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO MEETING WITH CANDIDATE
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POLITBURO MEMBER PONOMAREV. "EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS"
WITH SOVIET SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE RESULTS IN PLEA
FOR BROAD POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR "LEGITIMATE LEBANESE
AUTHORITIES" AND FOR STRENGTHENING PLO ON AN "ANTI-
IMPERIALIST AND DEMOCRATIC BASIS." LATTER PHRASE
WOULD SEEM TO INCLUDE AN IMPLICIT CRITICISM
OF PRESENT PLO STANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) AUG. 5 PRAVDA CARRIED COMMUNIQUE-LIKE REPORT ON JULY 26-AUG. 4 VISIT TO SOVIET UNION OF FATAH DEL LED BY SALEH KHALEF (ABU IYAD) AND INCLUDING KHALID AL HASAN, MAHMUD 'ABBAS (ABU MAZIN), AND NIMR SALEH. DEL IS SAID TO HAVE HAD "EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS" ON CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION WITH HOST ORGANIZATION, SOVIET SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE (SKSSAA). TWO SIDES:

- EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER EFFORTS BY "IMPERIALIST FORCES" TO HINDER M.E. PEACE SETTLEMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS;
- CONDEMNED SEPARATIST COURSE OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT AND STATED THAT "STEADFASTNESS AND RESISTANCE FRONT" - IN WHICH PLO PARTICIPATES - WAS IMPORTANT MEANS OF OPPOSING "CAPITULATIONIST SOLUTIONS" TO M.E. CRISIS;
- EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF UNITY OF ACTION OF PALESTINE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT AND ALL FORCES IN LEBANON "TO WHOM THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF THEIR COUNTRY ARE DEAR," AND CALLED FOR SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS OF "LEGITIMATE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES;"
- EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING THE PLO ON AN "ANTI-IMPERIALIST, DEMOCRATIC BASIS."

2. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, FATAH DEL ALSO MET WITH BORIS PONOMAREV, CHIEF OF THE CC CPSU INTERNATIONAL DEPT. (AND CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER), AND WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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R. A. ULYANOVSKIY, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEPT. THIS MEETING WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY V. L. KUDRYAVTSEV, DEP. CHAIRMAN OF SKSSAA (AND IZVESTIYA SENIOR POLITICAL COLUMNIST), AND PLO MOSCOW REP. MOHAMMED ASH-SHA'IR. (END UNCLASSIFIED)

3. COMMENT: WHILE THE MEETING AT CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS UNDOUBTEDLY THE SALIENT EVENT OF THE FATAH DEL'S VISIT, THE PRAVDA ACCOUNT PROVIDES NO SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION ON IT. THE PRESENCE AT THIS MEETING OF KUDRYAVTSEV, NOTED MORE FOR HIS VITRIOLIC JOURNALISTIC TALENTS THAN FOR HIS POLICY MAKING CAPABILITIES, WOULD SEEM TO DILUTE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS MEETING, BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS PRESUMPTION.

4. THE PUBLIC POSITIONS SHARED BY SKSSAA AND THE FATAH DEL SEEM ROUTINE TO US. WHILE THE CALL BY SKSSAA AND THE FATAH DEL FOR STRENGTHENING PLO ON AN "ANTI-IMPERIALIST AND DEMOCRATIC BASIS" WOULD SEEM TO IMPLY THAT THE PLO HAS BEEN LAX IN THOSE TWO AREAS, WE LEAVE SUCH A CONCLUSION FOR THOSE CLOSER TO THE INTRICACIES OF PALESTINIAN INFIGHTING.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY NOTES REFTEL C'S DESIGNATION

OF KHALID AL HASAN AS ABU AL-SAID. WE ASSUME THIS IS YET ANOTHER NOM DE GUERRE FOR KHALID AL-HASAN KNOWN AS ABU JAWAD. WE ALSO NOTE REFTEL B'S APPELATION OF NOM DE GUERRE ABU SALIH TO NIMR SALIH AND WE ASSUME THAT NIMR SALIH IS SAME PERSON AS MUHAMMAD SALAH LISTED IN WAFI BULLETIN (REF C).

6. PARENTHETICALLY, WE NOTE THAT, ACCORDING TO ARAB SOURCES, ASH SHA'IR HAS PACKED OFF HIS NO. 2 MAN IN THE MOSCOW OFFICE, FAYSAL HURRANI, AS WELL AS HIS NO. 3. THIS LEAVES ASH-SHA'IR AS VIRTUALLY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 18661

THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE OFFICER IN THE PLO OFFICE HERE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780892/aaaaczap.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 78 MOSCOW 18423, 78 KUWAIT 4372, 78 BEIRUT 4464
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Subject: FATAH DELEGATION LEAVES MOSCOW
TAGS: PDEV, UR, XF, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b6a9a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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